

St. John the Baptist Church
Leadership Team Report to Commissions

June 13, 2023

Fr. Paul Shovelain, Pastor

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- **Thank you!** As we complete our program year, thank you for your support and participation in our mission to “Call Forth” all those who come through our doors into a deeper relationship with Christ. It has been a blessing to see so much growth in a variety of capacities at SJB and it is due to your efforts. Thank you for your participation in the commissions as well as the many ministries you are engaged in at SJB.
- **Transitions.** Please pray for all those in transition whether graduating or in employment transitions. We pray that those in transition will be guided by the Holy Spirit as they are called forth to new opportunities.
- **Survey Follow Up.** We are still analyzing the results of the Weekend Experience Survey and discerning how to adapt to serve our parishioners well. In July we will begin the Feasibility Study to understand our parishioners’ desires in regard to our proposed facility improvements. Watch future parish communications for more information about these surveys.

Please let me or one of our team members know if you have questions or input in any area of our church and school life together. Thank you!

Jessica Balzarini, Director of Parish Life

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- **Parish Anniversary Party and Feast Day Celebration.** This year St. John’s will be celebrating our parish anniversary with Mass on Thursday, June 22 at 5:30 pm, a picnic dinner at 6:15 pm in St. Joseph Hall and a DJ in the west parking lot. The anniversary date of the dedication of our church is June 20, but our priests are in Winona that day at the Presbyteral Assembly. We will also be celebrating our parish feast at all the Masses on June 24 and 25. The Knights of Columbus will host a waffle breakfast that Sunday morning. Our youth will receive a good hardy breakfast and be sent off with a blessing for Catholic Youth Summer Camp!
- **Synod Evangelization Team.** The team has finished the Archdiocesan School of Discipleship through the Archbishop Flynn Catechetical Institute. The final session was an entire day dedicated to being *Activated* as disciples. We heard Dr. Mary Healy speak about the Holy Spirit, a talk that set the whole room on fire! Part of the activation experience was time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, praying for Baptism in the Holy Spirit, and time in prayer with our team.

Mark Dittman, Director of Business Operations

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- **Year to Date Sunday Giving.** Our Sunday Giving through Week 49 (June 4) is \$84,999 below budget, a difference of 3.8%. An [online summary](#) of the various ways our parishioners can financially support St. John’s can be found on our website. We are grateful for the continuing generosity of our parishioners and invite any additional gifts that will enable us to catch up to our budget as we close out the fiscal year on June 30. Thank you all!
- **FallFest 2023: September 22, 23 & 24.** Our next meeting is Thursday, July 6 at 6:00 p.m. in room 211. If you want information on the festival or want to volunteer to help plan a great festival, contact co-chair Taylor Burns or staff member Teri Shea with this email: fallfest@stjohnnyb.org. Thank you!

- **Administrative tasks.** Despite school being out and great weather, summer is not really a down time in the administration of the parish. The following activities keep the parish office busy all summer: fiscal year end and financial reporting, performance reviews, project oversight, insurance program discount application, program, liturgy and staff planning for the new year and more. In addition, several of our ministries stay active over the summer. And, of course, our staff does take vacations! I pray that all of you find rest, refreshment and renewal this summer!
- **Summer Office Hours.** On Fridays the Parish Administrative Offices will close at 1:00 p.m., from Friday, June 16 through Friday, September 1, with the exceptions of June 23 & July 28, when offices will close at 4:00 p.m. During those same weeks the church campus will close at 8:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 7:00 p.m. on Friday evenings. Additionally, staff will be enjoying planned vacations throughout the summer. Staff commitment to serving our parishioners will continue to be high; however, please be aware of these factors when engaging with our staff and otherwise conducting St. John's business or activities.

Jill Fink, Director of Catechesis

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- **Confirmation.** We had 36 students receive the sacrament of confirmation on May 23 at the Cathedral of St. Paul. What a blessed time for these young people and their families! Thank you all for our prayers for our youth.
- **Summer Youth Programming.** This summer is packed with camps offsite and onsite programming. Our offsite camps include CYSC June 25-30 with 73 middle school campers, 14 high school students, 12 adults, 2 youth ministers and our 2 priests attending. Totus Tuus is for middle school/high school the evenings of July 23-28. Mission Trip, a new program this year, is July 8-15 for our 8 high school and 4 adults. Steubenville Camp is July 28-30 with 11 youth and 4 adults attending. Onsite programming is Middle School Open Patio on Sundays starting June 11. High School Youth Group will meet between the offsite camps, once a month. A formation study is being offered for a D Group and middle school core team trainings will be offered weekly.
- **Summer Adult Programming.** The Chosen Summer Study will be offered on six Tuesday evenings in room 206. Monthly bonfire socials will also be offered for young adults.

Ann Laird, St. John the Baptist School Principal

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- **2022-2023 School Year.** We just finished a wonderful school year. We graduated 21 students and while we send them on to their next journey we are preparing to welcome 51 kindergartners and a total of 393 students in our K-8 school next year!
- **New Staff.** We will be welcoming four new teachers to St. John's next year! We are excited to have them join us. Additionally, we are looking for a kindergarten aide, an intervention teacher, a J-Care coordinator and a kitchen assistant.
- **Summer Projects & Goals.** We just finished installing two new sets of exterior school doors and will be connecting them to our security system. We are also working on our school-wide student management policy, updating our parent-student handbook and preparing to welcome our new staff members. And, there will be painting and other cleaning projects to beautify our school for the coming school year!

A joyous and restful summer to all of you and your families!
Thank you all for your reliance on prayer, your willingness to grow, and your generous spirit!

The St. John the Baptist Leadership Team
Fr. Paul Shovelain, Jessica Balzarini, Mark Dittman, Jill Fink, Ann Laird

**Bearing witness to Jesus Christ who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life:
GO. MAKE. TEACH.**